

<i>Situational Report</i>
COVID-19 Mandate Protests Operational Impacts
February 8, 2022 – 16:00

Background

On January 15, 2022, an Order of Council (OIC) was put in place to mandate vaccinations for commercial truck drivers crossing the border. As a result, commercial truck drivers around the country have organized and started protesting outside port of entries (POEs) by blocking roads and slowing traffic, along with a convoy of commercial vehicles headed towards Ottawa to protest outside Parliament.

Bottom Line:

Ambassador Bridge:

- As of 1510 ET SOR reports Windsor Police are considering allowing small groups of northbound traffic to cross the bridge.
- As of 1500 hours, several trucking companies have phoned the Commercial Superintendent's office, seeking updates as to when the bridge may re-open. Superintendents have been assisting carriers with to amend ACI submissions so that they can cross through a different port.
- As of As of 1300 ET hours, protestors have completely blocked a route used by local traffic and employees reporting to work.
- Windsor Tunnel – no delay reported and no protest activity.

Blue Water Bridge:

- At 1319 ET, Transport Canada notified of two groups of protesters on either side of the border near Sarnia/Port Huron suspected of having the intention to block and halt traffic on either side of the Blue Water Bridge (BWB).
- 135 minute border wait time for trucks with all commercial PIL lanes open, there is a 17 km backup of commercial trucks. No border wait time for passenger vehicles and no protest activity reported. There is a 14 km backlog of trucks waiting to enter the USA at Blue Water Bridge on Highway 402, CBP is reporting a 125 minute wait time for trucks.

Coutts:

- On February 8, 2022, at 1343 ET Coutts POR reports southbound blockades have commercial traffic backing up with delays increasing. The RCMP advised this morning that a single lane was re-opened heading Northbound with minimal traffic. There is currently no wait time heading Northbound.

Upcoming protest events:

Upcoming Events		
ONGOING	CONFIRMED	UNCONFIRMED
• Ottawa – February 8, 2022, Parliament Hill protest continues • Coutts – North and South bound traffic is flowing with one lane open in each direction and gates	• Ottawa – February 8, 2022, protests continue at Parliament Hill and downtown.	CANADA: • Peace Bridge, SOR – February 20, 2022 • Sarnia – February 8, 2022 • Sault Ste. Marie – February 8, 2022 • Montreal – date unknown

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are open. Protestors continue to line the highway north of the POE.		- North Portal, SK / Boissevain, MB - unconfirmed US: - Washington, US Capital - February 8 and 9, 2022, US Freedom Convoys.38 - Buffalo – February 11, 2022 - Port Huron (Sarnia) – February 12, 2022 EUROPE: - Brussels - Freedom Convoy Europe 2022 (Unconfirmed)
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US Protestors Identified at Port of Entries

- Reports received from CBSA POEs regarding Enhanced Vigilance Exams of potential protestors:

POE	Vehicle #	Enhanced vigilance exams (PAX #)	Direct Back	Allowed to Leave	Granted Entry	Comments
Pac Hwy Traffic, PAC	2	3	3	0		Wrong turns attempting to protest at Peace Arch Park.
Douglas, PAC	10	21	18	3		Wrong turns attempting to protest at Peace Arch Park.
Lansdowne, NOR	1	2			2	Journalists looking to document the protests in Ottawa. Provided necessary credentials and had equipment consistent with their stated purpose of travel.
Prescott, NOR	1	1			1	Unvaccinated Cdn citizen/US resident has been directed to quarantine by CBSA and PHAC
Sault Ste. Marie, NOR	2	2	1			- U.S. citizen attempting to join protest in Ottawa. - Feb 5: Cdn citizen expressing extremist views refused to comply with COVID entry requirements and ran the port
Total	16	29	22	3	3	

Atlantic Region

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- No impacts to CBSA operations reported

Quebec Region

- No impacts to CBSA operations reported

Northern Ontario Region

Sault Ste. Marie:

- February 8, 2022, at 1448 ET, the POE reported that the anticipated protest closing the bridge has not occurred. No activity has been observed or confirmed.

Greater Toronto Area Region

- No impact to CBSA operations reported.

Southern Ontario Region

Passage count week by week comparison (updated Feb 8, 2022 1200 ET)

# Passages (Persons)	2022-01-31	2022-02-01	2022-02-07	2022-02-08
		Noon		Noon
	Monday	Tuesday	Monday	Tuesday
Windsor Ambassador Bridge Travellers	2216	321	760	9
Windsor Ambassador Bridge Commercial	3804	1843	1855	1
Windsor Tunnel	2216	611	4428	827
Other Commercial POEs				
Sarnia Blue Water Bridge Commercial	2238	1100	2817	2394
Sarnia Blue Water Bridge Travellers	889	251	877	207

Blue Water Bridge

- On February 8, 2022, as of 1441 ET, the border wait time at Sarnia Blue Water Bridge is at 2 hours 15 minutes for trucks entering Canada.
- On February 8, 2022, as of 14:22 ET Transport Canada & Federal Bridge Corporation Limited (FCBL) has reported that a slow roll protest is being planned on social media for Port Huron, MI (US) on 12 February 2022 at approximately 13:00 ET.

Ambassador Bridge

- As of 1510 ET SOR reports Windsor Police are considering allowing small groups of northbound traffic to cross.
- As of 13:00 hours, protestors have completely blocked westbound College Avenue turning northbound on Patricia Rd with pickup trucks and vehicles. This route was previously used by local traffic and employees reporting to work.

Prairie Region

Commercial Traffic Volumes

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# Passages (Persons)	2022-01-22	2022-01-23	2022-01-24	2022-01-25	2022-01-26	2022-01-27	2022-01-28	2022-01-29	2022-01-30	2022-01-31	2022-02-01	2022-02-02	2022-02-03	2022-02-04	2022-02-05	2022-02-06	2022-02-07
	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
Coutts Travellers	234	253	188	251	177	232	286	202	22	20	11	9	44	74	68	180	164
Coutts Commercial*	397	372	361	349	479	588	519	252	23	0	0	0	72	121	150	177	208
Del Bonita	0	0	43	8	19	33	25	0	0	186	225	173	224	172	0	0	87
Carway	47	78	29	21	24	28	30	36	211	127	132	97	90	81	139	161	88
Aden	1	0	0	1	2	0	4	3	32	11	17	8	13	14	34	14	2
Other Commercial POEs																	
Regway	41	30	57	40	46	64	63	39	78	66	117	85	103	85	49	49	68
Rossville	72	150	105	70	143	146	146	99	271	223	167	169	187	155	131	226	135
North Portal Travellers	43	35	74	59	48	71	73	73	83	72	69	53	66	94	99	71	71
North Portal Commercial	335	258	205	290	316	393	377	334	280	223	268	458	426	305	322	351	281

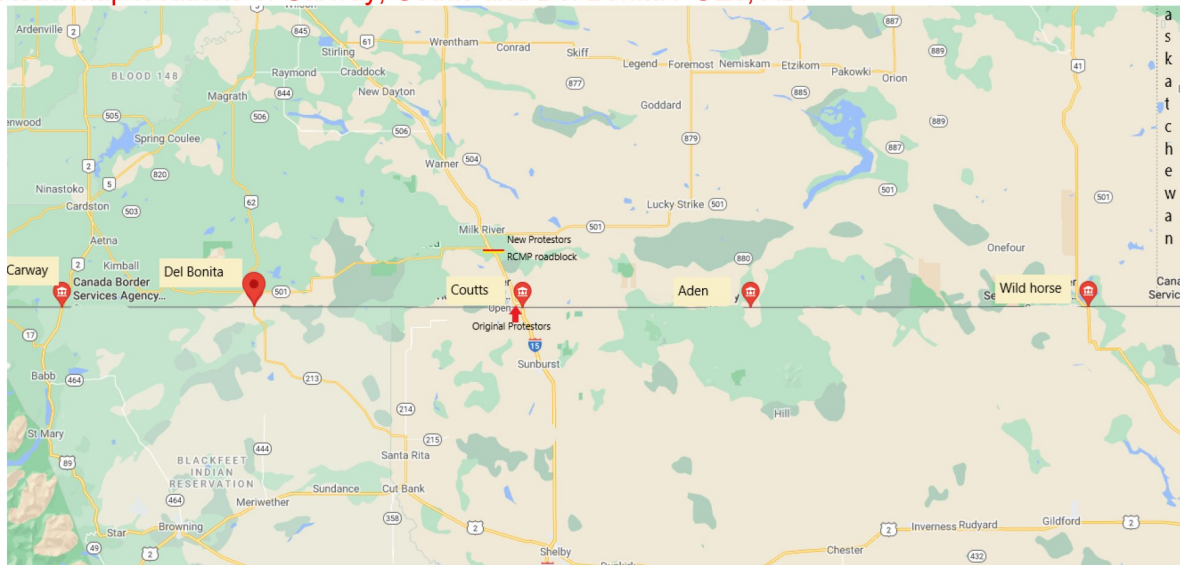
Coutts

- As of 1200 ET, CBSA has seen minimal traffic this morning; processing north bound traffic with no issues. Southbound: commercial traffic backing up with delays increasing due to the blockades. RCMP continue to vet & divert southbound traffic at CP14 (right next to Milk River). RCMP is working to put through the 21 Southbound cattle trucks at CP14 one at a time to ensure they do not get stuck between protest sites. There are currently approximately 56 southbound trucks at CP14 waiting to be released by RCMP to travel south.

Del Bonita

- On February 8, 2022, as of 10:53 ET, two tractors pulling grain carts and one tractor pulled into the parking lot at POE Del Bonita. Tractors remained parked for about 5 minutes and drove north to HWY 501 and headed west towards POE Carway. RCMP are aware and will be in the area today. The POE was not open at the time and there was no impact to operations.

Road map locations of Carway, Coutts and Del Bonita POEs, AB:



Lyleton

- On February 8, 2022 as of 1325 ET, POE reported one male protester in a pick up truck blocking provincial Hwy 256 approximately 1 mile north of the POE. Traffic is affected both north and south bound. Current situation hard to monitor due to distance from the POE. RCMP detachment from Virden, MB are responding. As of 1310 ET, the protester ended their blockade and traffic is able to flow north and south freely.

Pacific Region

Pacific Highway

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- As of 11:30 PST on February 8, 2022, the demonstration continues near Pacific Highway port of entry. Currently 25-30 participants are approximately 500 meters north of the port, not on port property. There is no slow roll or convoy currently being utilized by the demonstrators. Participants have been peaceful and there is no impact on CBSA operations; traffic has not been impeded in either north or south directions. One media outlet was present this morning, but remained off site and CBSA Communications West was made aware.

Intelligence and Enforcement

Intelligence Landscape

BLUF: As of February 8 at 1330 ET, the overall threat to CBSA officers and infrastructure is low.

ANALYSIS:

General Threats

- No change to posture.** According to the RCMP, no formal organized plot of violence has been identified. Factors such as the circulation of misinformation, exhaustion, substance abuse, altercations amongst protesters and with law enforcement and the influence of ideologically motivated actors or charismatic speakers may impact the temperature of the crowd. The potential for violence by a lone actor or fringe group cannot be discounted.
- No Update:** The City of Ottawa declared a state of emergency at 16:15 ET on Feb 6th and OPS tweeted on FEB6 at 14:30 ET that enforcement is underway and “anyone attempting to bring material supports to the demonstrations could be subject to arrest”. On Feb 6th OPS officers conducted an enforcement operation at the baseball stadium parking lot that's been serving as a staging area for the protesters in the downtown core. Police removed vehicles and at least one tanker of fuel that was stored at the Coventry Road lot.
- No update.** Partners received reports that a member of the public who claimed to work for CBSA (unconfirmed) was at the Marriott/Hampton Inn near the old RCMP HQ and stated that she heard Queen Romana DIDULO/Queen of Canada was planning to bomb Parliament via the tunnel system. No other information was obtained as the complainant stated they had to go and drove off to possibly do security at the parking lot where the truckers have been staying all week next to the hotel. Vehicle plate was snow covered. Partners could not corroborate these claims at this time. RCMP INSET has been notified. CBSA NOR Intelligence continuing to monitor situation.
- No update.** Demonstrations also occurred at the Ottawa International Airport. Airport Authority confirmed they were aware of demonstrators on the ramp on the departure level (3rd floor). CBSA was not advised of any implications. No operational impact.
- No update.** Partners received information that an individual may be supplying weapons to protestors. This individual may have been previously imprisoned in the Yukon for weapons trafficking. Partners is undertaking OSINT to gather additional information about this individual.
- No update. OPS intelligence advise of a chat which mentions that “convoy to ottawa and convoy east” have a plan in place and are organizing a new convoy to Ottawa.

POE Threats

- An ongoing analysis of SRT reporting, OSINT, s.38 [REDACTED] indicates that there are no credible threats currently identified for any POE.**
- No Update:** On February 8, 2022, the port of Coutts has seen minimal traffic in the morning. The RCMP have advised early this morning that a single lane was re-opened heading Northbound. Commercial vehicle traffic has been minimal in the last few hours. There is currently no wait time heading Northbound. Southbound blockades have commercial traffic backing up with delays increasing.
- On February 8, 2022, as of 0500 ET, the Blue Water Bridge Commercial Operations (Blue Water Bridge) reports Commercial traffic is backed up to U.S. tolls due to being diverted from Ambassador Bridge. **As of 10:00 a BWT of 70 minutes have been reported.**
- On 2022-02-07, at 21:00 Hours the ROC in SOR was activated due to the Freedom Convoy protest causing a 240 minute Border Wait Time (BWT) at the Ambassador Bridge. As of 22:29 Hours, all vehicles have been cleared from the Ambassador Bridge by utilizing a secondary exit from the operation and all

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Canadian bound traffic is being held on the US side of the bridge until the protesters have been cleared. Four alternative routes have been provided to employees, however, protestors move periodically to block alternates. Employees are reporting to the alternate location, the Offsite (Commercial Warehouse) if necessary.

- On February 7, 2022 as of 1738 CT, the blockade at Carway POE has ended. All convoy and the RCMP proceeded north on Highway 2. Operations at the POE resumed as of 1730hrs. On February 8, 2022 at 10:53 ET 2 tractors pulling grain carts and 1 tractor with a large plow blade pulled into the parking lot at POE Del Bonita. Tractors remained parked for about 5 minutes and drove north to HWY 501 and headed west towards POE Carway. RCMP are aware of the situation and will be in the area today. The POE was not open at this time and there was no impact to operations.
- **No Update:** At approximately 14:45, a slow rolling demonstration is taking place in close proximity to the Port of Pacific Highway Operations. A peaceful group of approximately 20 to 30 light vehicles, displaying Canadian flags and various freedom support messages have been driving slowly in a circle between 4th Avenue and 2nd Avenue along 176th Street. Surrey RCMP notified and are currently monitoring the protest. Neighboring POEs, USCBP, Regional Intelligence, local Chiefs and area Director have been briefed. Operational impact to both Commercial and Traffic Operations has been minimal as the slow rolling protest remains clearly off of POE property. South bound commercial truck volumes remain low.

Ideologically Motivated Violent Extremism (IMVE)

- **No update.** According to the RCMP, while chatter encouraging peaceful and lawful protest continues to circulate, concerns exist that protest events associated with the convoy could be exploited by individuals who engage in or promote actions that pose a risk to public and officer safety. To date there has been one reported POE encounter with an individual expressing extremist ideology. On Feb 5th, an individual ran the port at Sault Ste. Marie after expressing support for QAnon influencer Romana Didulo: "Queen Ramona has lifted all the mandates. The Trudeau Government has fallen and the Alliance is in charge. Queen Ramona has told us to report anyone who enforcing these mandates." In 2021 Didulo supporters in Canada had hand delivered fake "cease and desist" orders to the Carson, Cascade, Paterson, Waneta, Nelway, Rykert, & Kingsgate POEs. In 2021 Didulo urged her armed followers to kill individuals involved in administering the COVID vaccination program and also any individuals who enforce government mandated COVID restrictions or requirements for vaccination.

Other Threats

- **Ongoing threat.** The size, unorganized potential and general distraction of some these POE protests continue to create conditions where both criminal actors and migrants may use the events to illegally cross the border into Canada. This may also include protesters who wish to join events on the Canadian side of the border, but do not want to report to Border Service Officers.
- **No Update:** SOR reports that there are two movements from the US are starting online; poster circulating for February 11 in Buffalo; February 12 in Port Huron border and February 20th at Peace Bridge. Sentiment throughout seems to be that the convoy to DC can wait and that's it time to support their Canadian brothers / sisters now so go to the borders in support.
- **No Update:** US news sites are reporting that Facebook has removed the Facebook pages associated to "Convoy to D.C. 2022" being used to organize truckers to drive from California to Washington D.C. Media reporting states that Facebook has also removed the pages for the other planned US-based protest convoys originating in Texas and Florida. Social media and news websites in the US indicated that there is an online movement, which was focused on Facebook pages entitled "Freedom Convoy 2022", to organize protest convoys of US truckers from Texas and Florida which would converge on Washington D.C. with tentative planned arrival time in D.C. of February 8th. The organizers of Freedom Convoy 2022 reportedly moved their online operations to Telegram, with at least 28,000 individuals joining that Telegram page. There is no reporting at this time to indicate that the proposed US convoys plan to enter Canada.

Communications

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- As of February 8, 2022, Media Relations has nine calls and counting asking for an update on situation at Ambassador Bridge; one asking for update on Coutts. Working with regional communications on updates to previous media responses.

Other Governmental Departments

- At 14:47 ET, 08 February 2022, the Transport Canada NOTAM over the Milk River and Coutts Border Crossing protest has been extended until 18:30 ET, 16 February 2022.
- Media reports: [Trucker convoy protest in Ottawa inspires right-wing activists globally](#) – New Zealand, Australia, England
- February 8, 2022 at 12:00 ET, Partner agency reports: Towing companies on city contracts refuse to move convoy vehicles. [Link](#)
- February 8, 2022 at 1245 ET, a media advisory was released advising that The President of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada and Minister of Emergency Preparedness and the Minister of Public Safety will hold a press conference to provide an update concerning the situation in Ottawa, Coutts and Windsor on February 8, 2022, at 1330 ET.

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